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# THE UNCANNY

# X-MEN™

DON'T YOU  
UNDERSTAND  
**COLOSSUS?**  
WE'RE YOUR  
**FRIENDS!**



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Stan Lee  
PRESENTS:

# THE UNCANNY X-MEN!

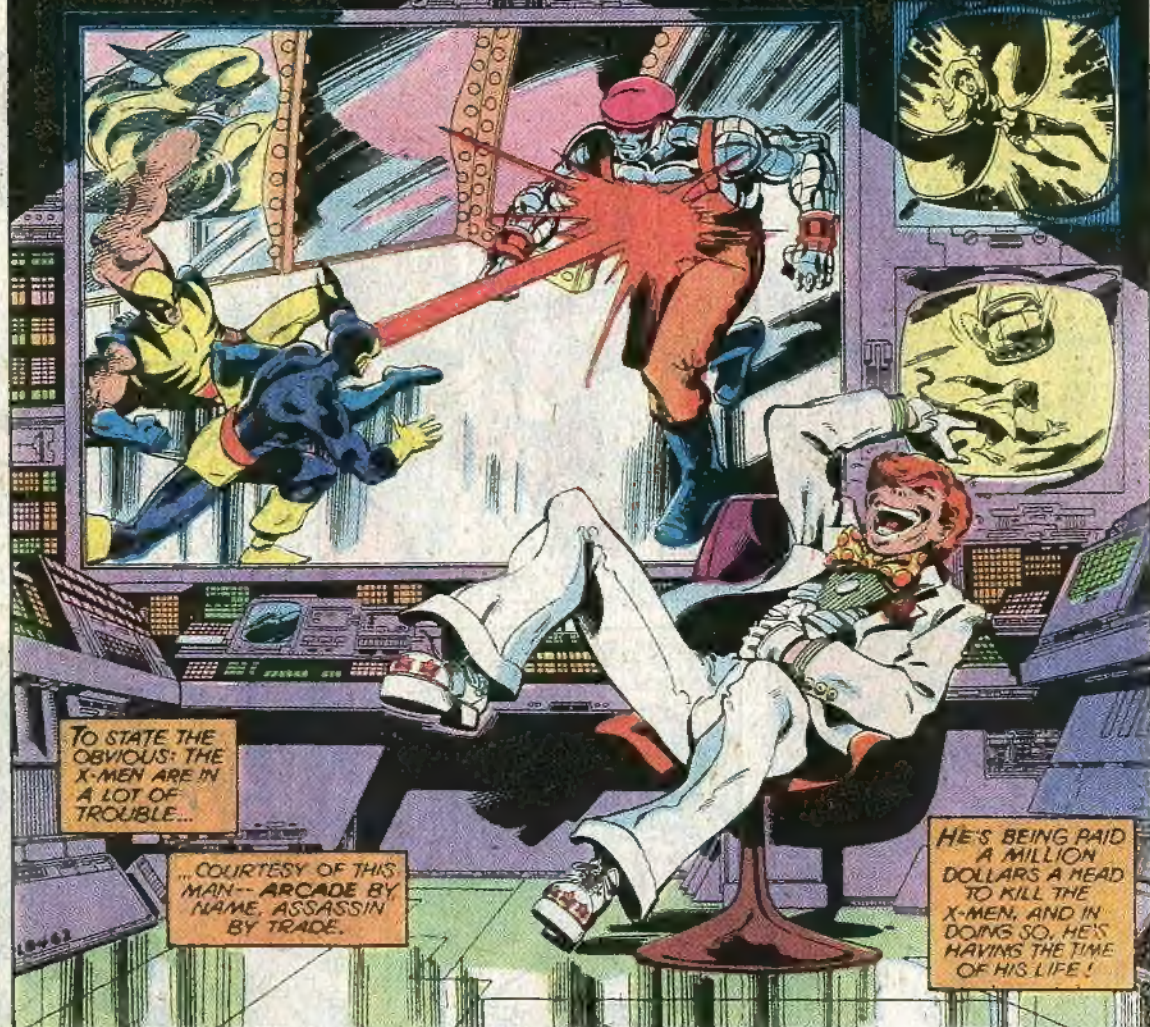
CHRIS CLAREMONT & JOHN BYRNE + TERRY AUSTIN  
AUTHOR/CO-PLOTTERS/ PENCILER INKER

TOM ORZECZOWSKI, letterer  
GLYNIS WEIN, colorist

ROGER STERN  
EDITOR

JIM SHOOTER  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

## He only laughs when I HURT!



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"THAT WAS WHEN I REALIZED THAT I HAD A GREAT AND UNIQUE TALENT FOR MURDER. WITHIN A YEAR, I WAS THE BEST HIT-MAN IN THE STATES-- AND I WAS BORED STIFF.

"Y'SEE, LADIES, ANY FOOL CAN KILL-- I WANTED TO DO IT WITH STYLE.

"IT WAS AN INSTANT SUCCESS. BUT BEFORE LONG, I WAS BORED AGAIN. SURE, I'D BUILT MY DISNEYLAND OF DEATH.



"WHAT I NEEDED NOW WAS A Foe WORTHY OF IT-- AND ME.

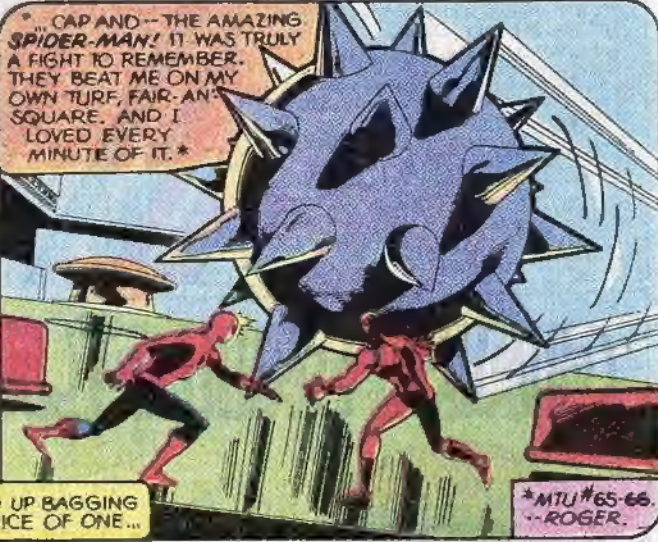
"SO, I COMBINED MY GENIUS WITH DADDY'S FORTUNE AND CREATED MURDERWORLD-- THE FIRST ASSASSINATION AMUSEMENT PARK.

"THEN, ALONG CAME MESSERS. ROAK AND MORAN, MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN MAGGIA HEIRARCHY-- OFFERING A CONTRACT ON AN ENGLISH SUPERHERO, CAP'N BRITAIN.



"I SAID YES, AND ENDED UP BAGGING TWO HEROES FOR THE PRICE OF ONE...

"...CAP AND-- THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! IT WAS TRULY A FIGHT TO REMEMBER. THEY BEAT ME ON MY OWN TURF, FAIR-AND-SQUARE, AND I LOVED EVERY MINUTE OF IT."



\*MTU #65-66.  
--ROGER.

"I WAS GETTING SET FOR A REMATCH WITH THE WALL-CRAWLER WHEN BLACK TOM CASSIDY AND CAIN MARKO-- THE JUGGERNAUT-- MADE ME AN OFFER I COULDN'T REFUSE.



WELL, ARCADE-- WHAT'S YOUR DECISION?

GENTLEMEN, AS OF RIGHT NOW, THE X-MEN ARE AS GOOD AS DEAD!

CAPTURING THEM TURNED OUT TO BE A CINCH. START TO FINISH, I CORRALLED THE ENTIRE TEAM-- WITH YOU LOVELY LADIES AS AN UNEXPECTED BONUS-- INSIDE OF AN HOUR."



THEY NEVER KNEW WHAT HIT THEM.

\*LAST ISSUE, --R.



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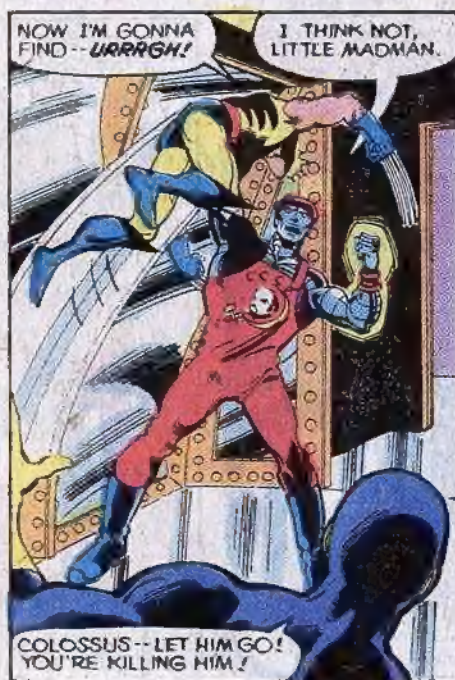
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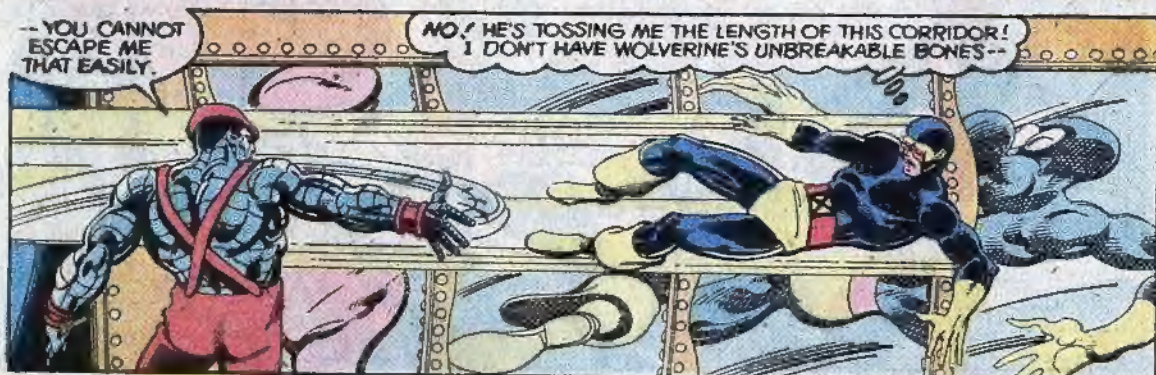
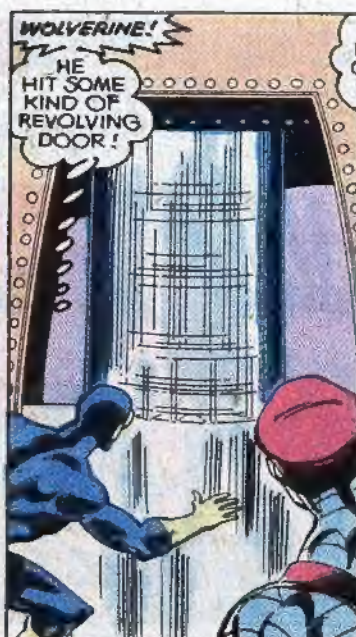
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TELL A WHOPPER  
WHEN YOU  
HEAR ONE  
**CRUNCH!**













POOR  
SAP.

HE MUST HAVE SOME REAL, FUNDAMENTAL DOUBTS ABOUT  
BEING AN X-MAN FOR ME TO HAVE **BRAINWASHED** HIM SO  
QUICKLY AND COMPLETELY.

WHO TO  
LOOK IN  
ON NEXT, I  
WONDER?  
I KNOW--



--STORM!--

I JUST BARELY  
MANAGED TO  
DEFLECT ARCADE'S  
LIGHTNING TRAP.

SOMEHOW, HE  
CAN MANIPULATE  
THE ENVIRONMENT  
IN THIS ROOM--  
ARTIFICIALLY COUNTERING  
MY NATURAL ABILITY TO  
CONTROL THE ELEMENTS.



OW! HE'S CREATING  
A VICIOUS DOWN-  
DRAFT AGAIN!

IT'S TOO  
POWERFUL--  
I CAN'T STAY  
AIRBORNE!



LAST TIME... I BELLY-  
FLOPPED LIKE THAT,  
I WAS A CHILD. I'D  
FORGOTTEN HOW  
MUCH IT HURT.

LANDING  
KNOCKED  
THE WIND  
OUT OF  
ME, TOO.



I HAVE TO  
GET BACK  
TO THE  
SURFACE.

WATER'S A MUCH HEAVIER  
MEDIUM THAN AIR-- IT'S  
MUCH HARDER FOR ME TO  
MANIPULATE, BUT AS SOON  
AS I CATCH MY BREATH, I'LL...



NO--OK, NO! THE  
WATER LEVEL'S  
RISEN ALMOST TO  
THE CEILING!

ANOTHER FEW  
INCHES, AND  
I'LL DROWN!



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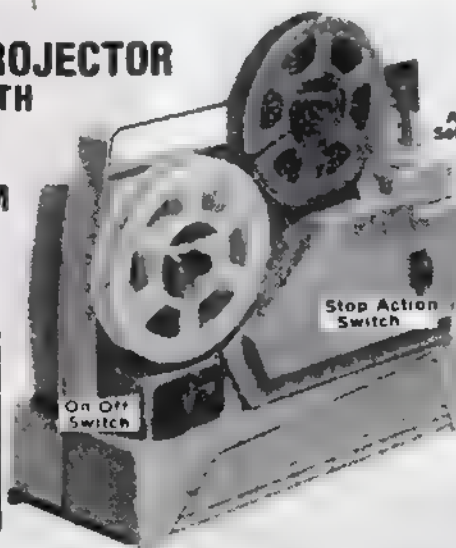
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ELSEWHERE... I'M GOING LIKE A ROCKET DOWN THIS CHUTE!

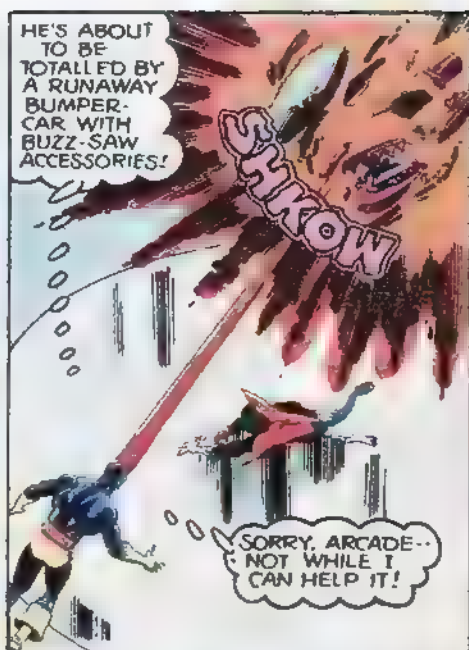
I HOPE THERE'S NOTHING IN THE WAY WHEN I HIT BOTTOM!



MADE IT-- BUT WHERE?!

THIS ROOM IS SHAPED LIKE A GIANT CHROMIUM GOLDFISH BOWL. AND--!

NIGHT-CRAWLER!



HE'S ABOUT TO BE TOTALLED BY A RUNAWAY BUMPER-CAR WITH BUZZ-SAW ACCESSORIES!

SORRY, ARCADE-- NOT WHILE I CAN HELP IT!



KURT, ARE YOU OKAY? YOU'RE BLEEDING!

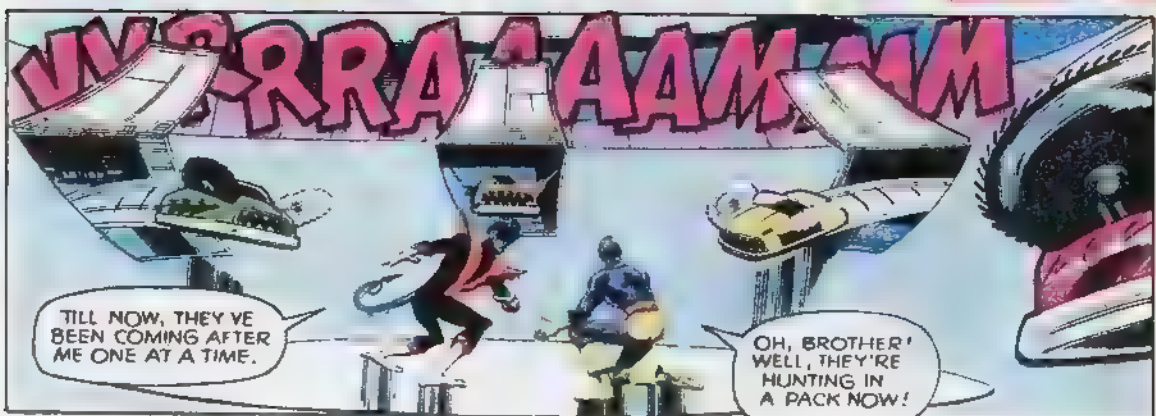
IT'S ONLY A SCRATCH ONE OF THOSE MANIC DODGE-'EM CARS CAME A LITTLE TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT.

IF I KNEW WHERE WE WERE, I'D TELEPORT OUT OF THIS VERDAMMT NIGHTMARE!



I'M AFRAID I CAN'T HELP YOU THERE, BUT AT LEAST ONE WORRY JUST BIT THE DUST I ZAPPED THE CAR.

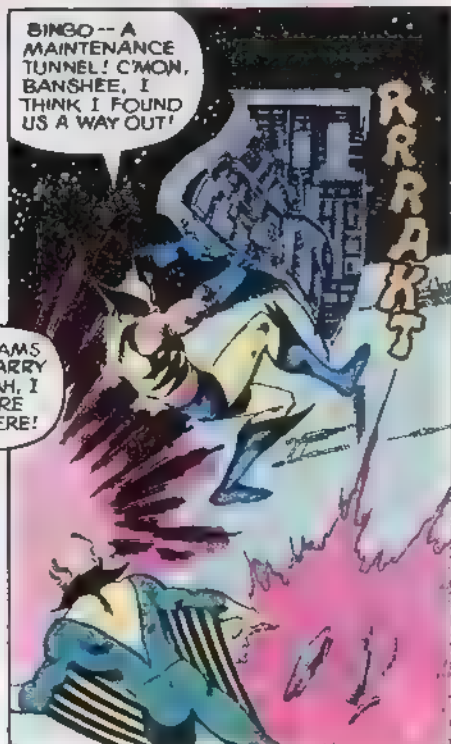
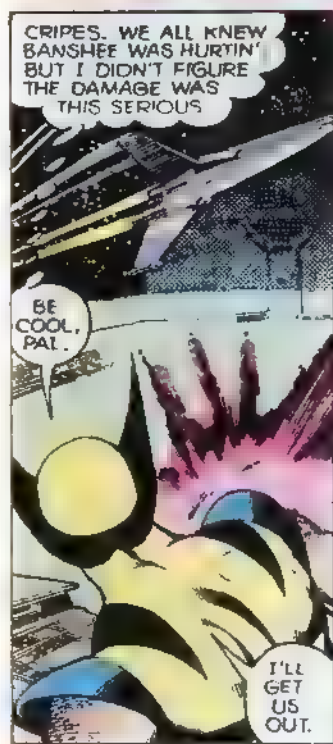
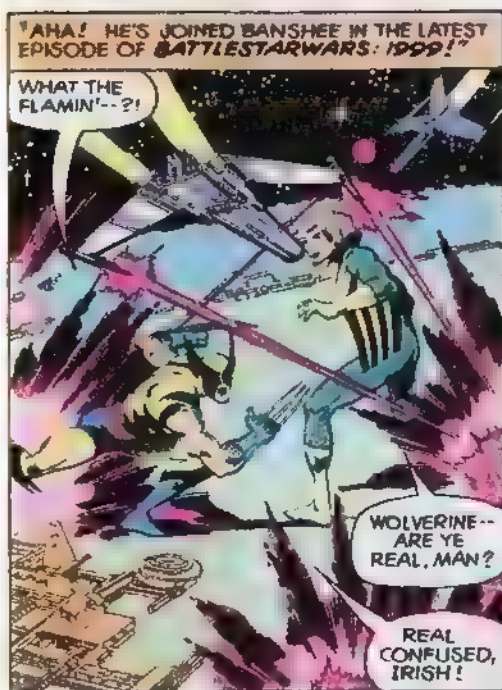
YOU MISUNDERSTAND, MEIN FREUND-- IT'S NOT "THE" CAR, IT'S "A" CAR. LOOK!



TILL NOW, THEY'VE BEEN COMING AFTER ME ONE AT A TIME.

OH, BROTHER! WELL, THEY'RE HUNTING IN A PACK NOW!







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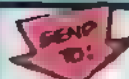
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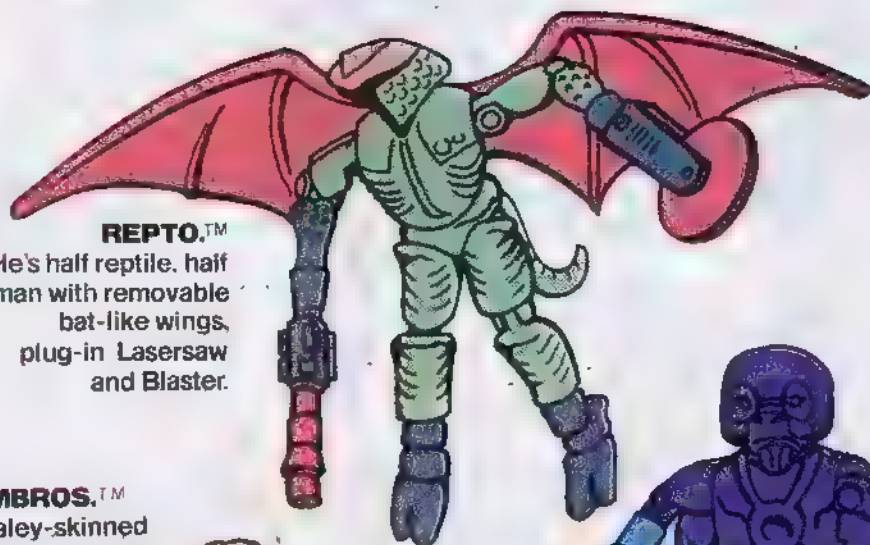
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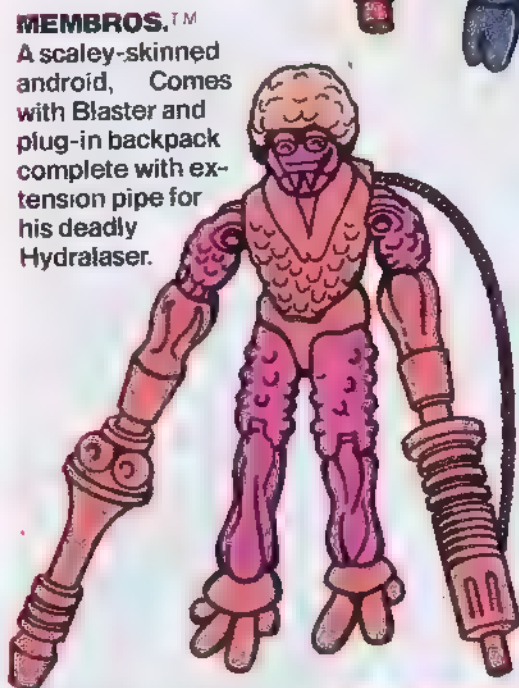
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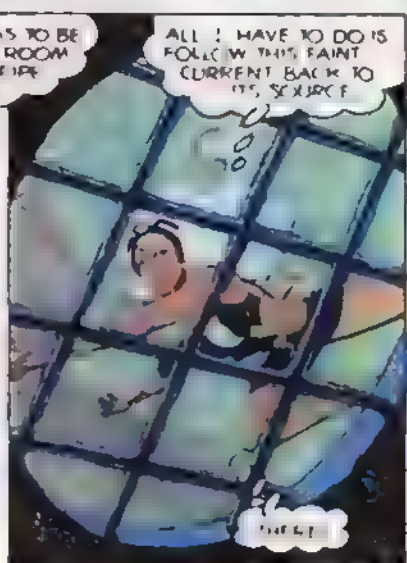
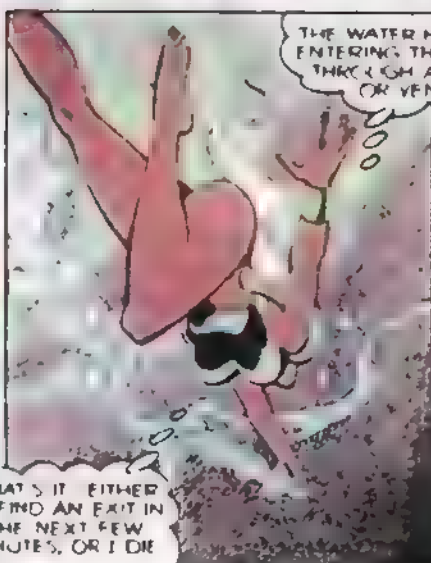
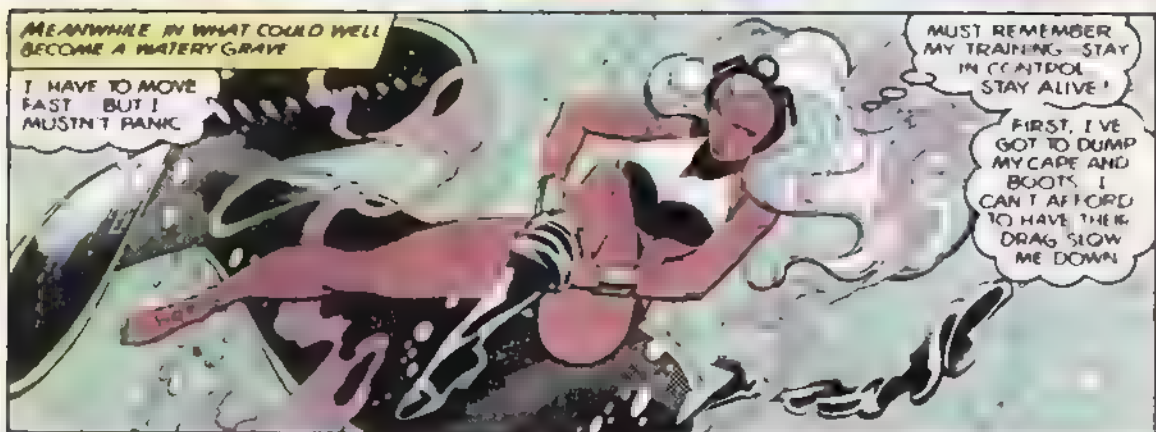
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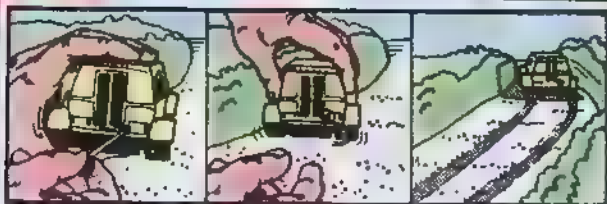
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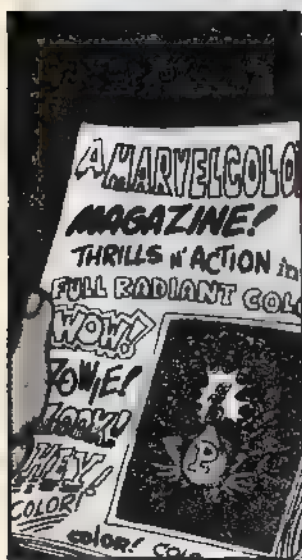
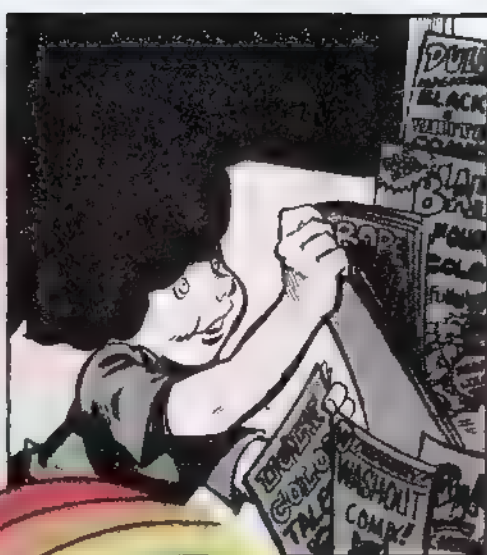
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PERFECT MY FIRST SHOT TOOK CARE OF THE CARS-- MY SECOND MADE US AN INSTANT EXIT

AFTER YOU, NIGHTCRAWLER

DANKE. I THINK.

THIS IS SOME KIND OF MAINTENANCE TUNNEL-- LOOKS DESERTED, TOO.



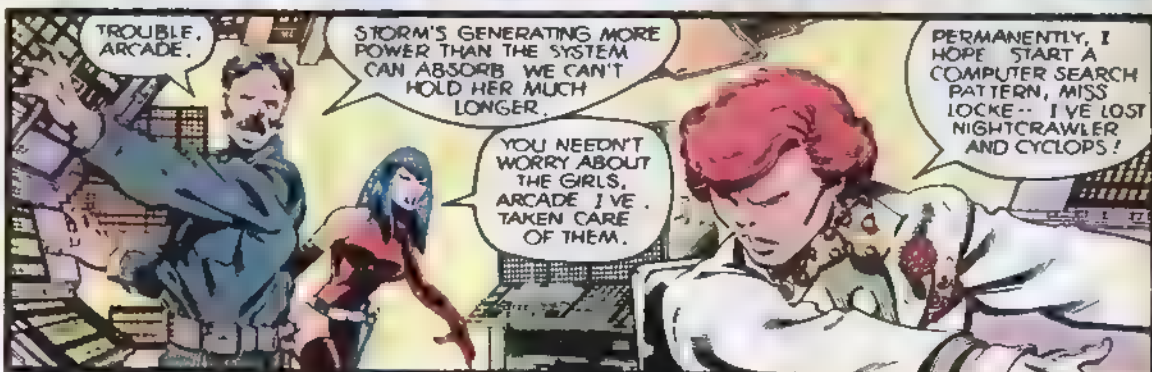
I HATE TO SPLIT US UP, BUT WE'VE NO ALTERNATIVE

YOU TAKE THE MAIN TUNNEL UP THERE--



--AND I'LL TAKE THIS BRANCH LINE IF YOU FIND ANY OTHER X-MEN, TRY TO HELP THEM IF YOU FIND ARCADE'S CONTROL CENTER..

I KNOW, TRASH IT!



TROUBLE, ARCADE.

STORM'S GENERATING MORE POWER THAN THE SYSTEM CAN ABSORB. WE CAN'T HOLD HER MUCH LONGER.

YOU NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT THE GIRLS, ARCADE. I'VE TAKEN CARE OF THEM.

PERMANENTLY. I HOPE I START A COMPUTER SEARCH PATTERN, MISS LOCKE-- I'VE LOST NIGHTCRAWLER AND CYCLOPS!



THE TUNNELS PROBABLY CRAMMED WITH SENSORS-- SOONER OR LATER, ARCADE'S BOUND TO FIND US



I TRIED USIN' ME SONIC SCREAM ON THIS ROBOT MAGNETO, BUT THE PAIN WAS TOO GREAT ME POWERS..USELESS!

BUT IT'S --HM?! SOUNDS LIKE A FIGHT.

I BEEN WAITIN MONTHS FOR A REMATCH WITH THE HULK! \* TOO BAD YOU AIN'T THE REAL THING!

\*SINCE HULK #181 --ROGER.



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| <input type="checkbox"/> CONAN                        | MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE                               |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> THE DEFENDERS                | MASTER OF KUNG FU                               |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> GHOST RIDER                  | SPIDEY SUPER STORIES                            |
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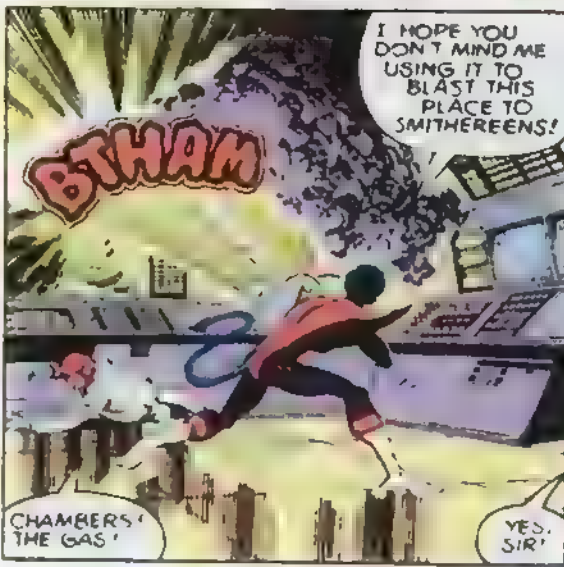
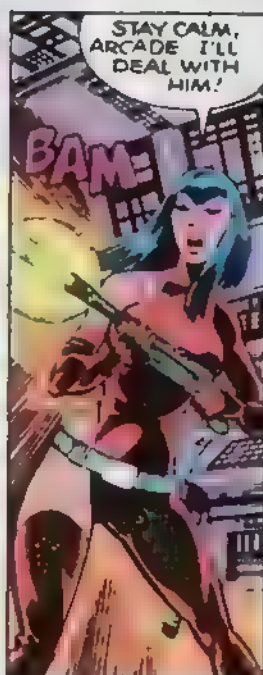
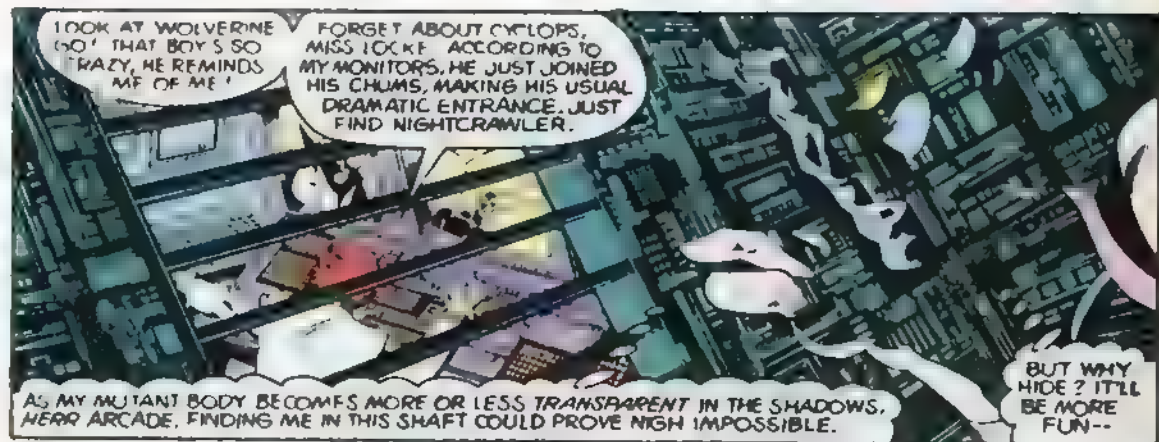
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

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State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_







AT THAT MOMENT, UNAWARE OF NIGHTCRAWLER'S FATE..



WHAT GIVES?! I'VE NEVER HEARD SEAN SOUND SO DISPIRITED.



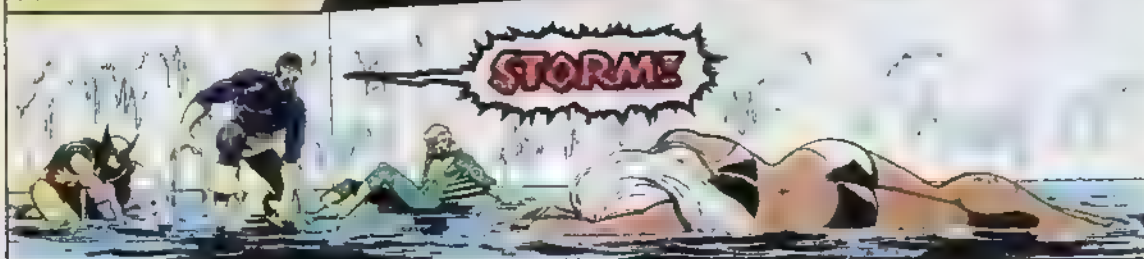
YEAH-- AND IT'S COMING THIS WAY



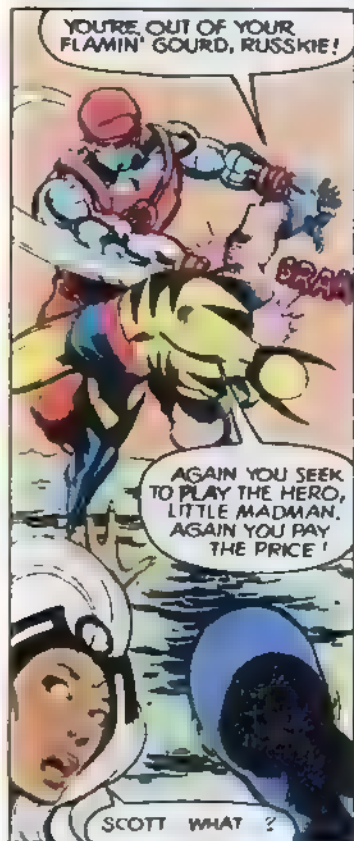
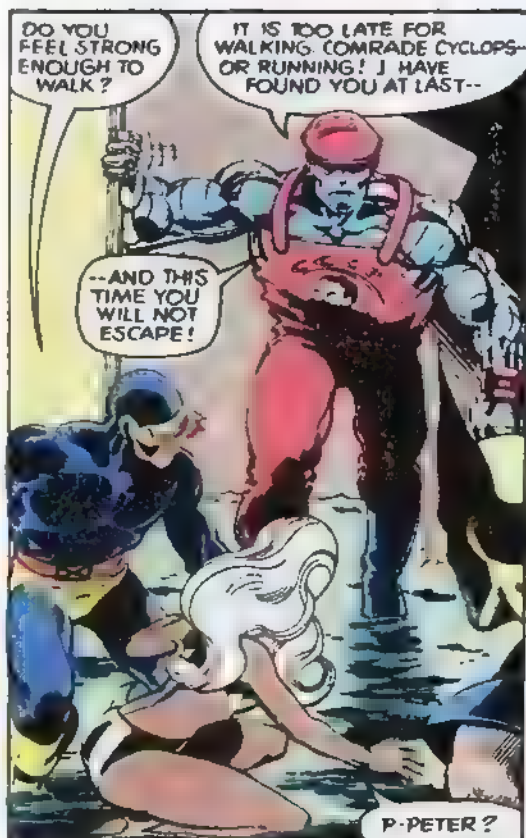
IN PART AT LEAST, STORM'S GAMBLE HAS FINALLY PAID OFF, HER LIGHTNING BOLTS SHATTERING NOT ONLY THE WATER PIPE



AS THE DELUGE SUBSIDES..





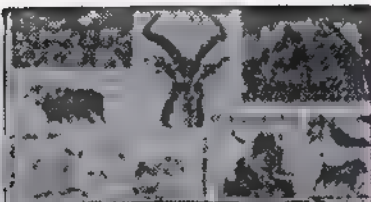




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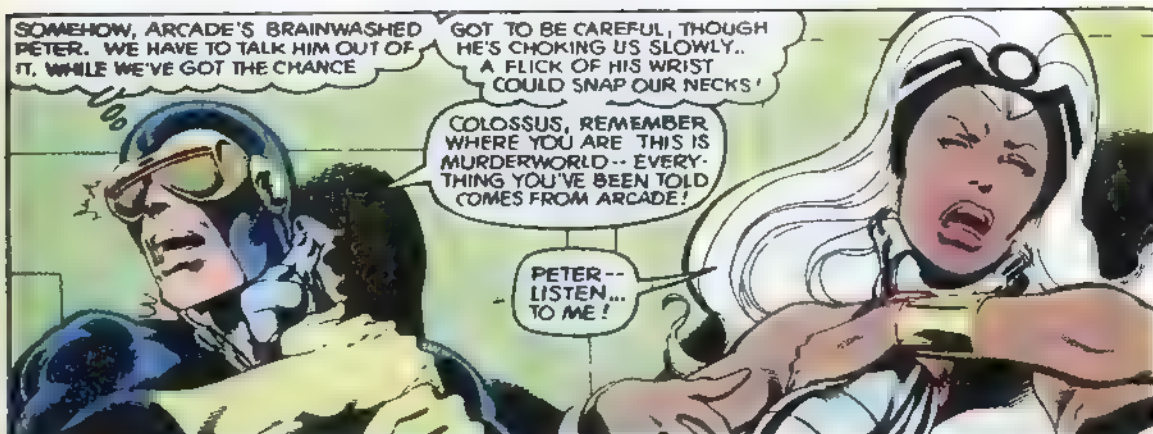
**GLOW IN THE DARK!**

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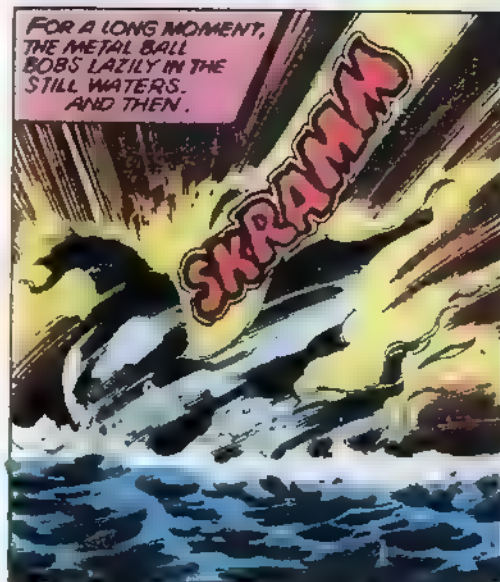
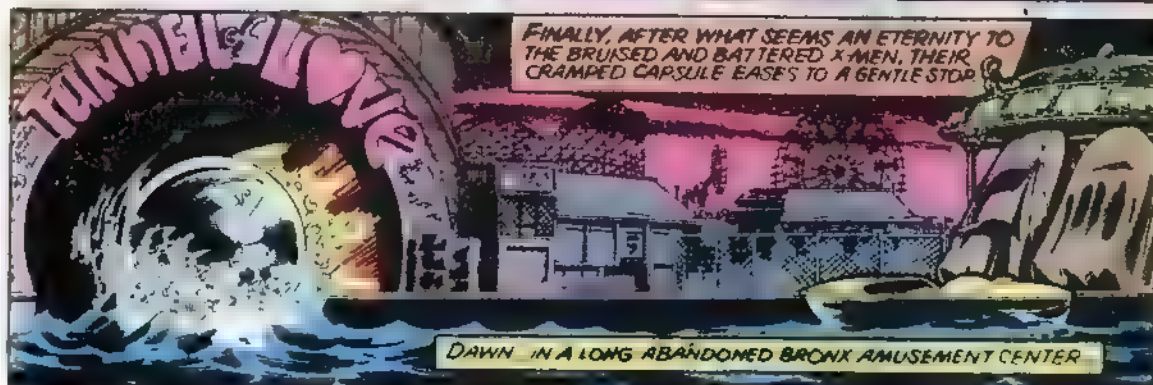
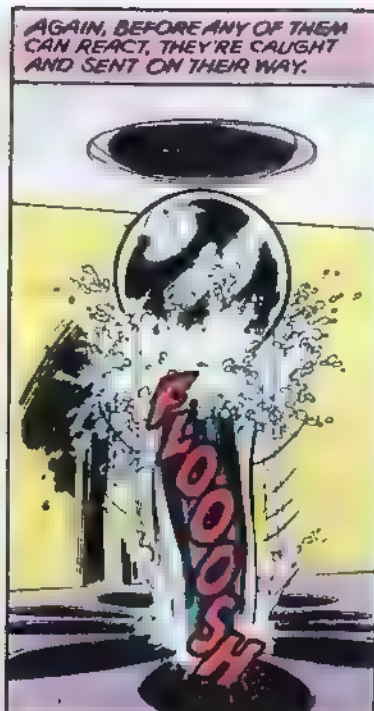
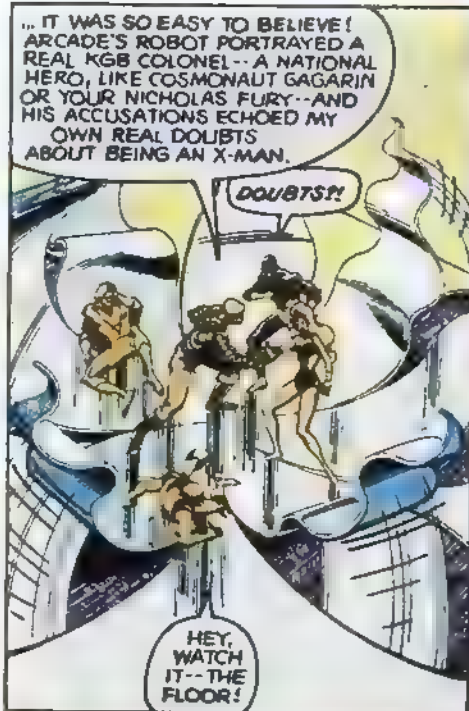
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# BULLPEN BULLETINS

## THE MOST IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE YEAR!

**ITEM!** Talk about your close calls! A few weeks ago, a boogie of bullpeners gathered at the home of Hamblin' Roger and Devilish Dickie McKenzie for coffee, cards and cup cakes. As you might expect, everyone had a wild and crazy time... but the evening was very nearly marred by tragedy! The party was winding down when Marv Wolfman set out in his Pinto for his house in Flushing. He had only gone twenty or so blocks when suddenly his car was slammed from behind while making a turn! The poor Pinto was instantly twisted into a total wreck. Somehow, though, Marv emerged from the disaster shaken but without serious injury, and miraculously the other driver was also unhurt. We're a very happy that only the cars were crunched but for Michele Wolfman baby Jessica all of us here in the Bullpen, and Marv's trillion or so fans, it was a bit too close for comfort!



**ITEM!** Speaking of Marvellous Marv, have we got a treat for you Wolfmanites. Fantastic Four freaks and literature lovers! It's *Doomsday*, the novel, featuring an all-new epic starring the fabulous FF. Written by, yep, our own Mr. Wolfman! Marv isn't taking much about what's inside the book, and whenever we ask him, he just puts on his big, smug read-it-and-see grin. We've learned from past experience not to doubt the significance of that grin, so we'd humbly advise you to buy a copy and if you can bear to stop feasting your eyes on the gorgeous Bob Larkin cover painting, read it. After you're finished and your molecules have settled, get ready for another plunge into adventure with Captain America in his own novel, entitled *Holocaust for Hire!* This stunning tale is by Joseph Si va who did such a bang-up job on the first Hulk novel a while back, but Marv's involved in this one too, as one of the coedtors (that guy is everywhere!). Should we mention that Dave Cockrum painted the cover? Or will that cause riots at the bookstores as his Legion of fans fight over the last few copies? Oh, well... just follow the crowd to wherever Simon & Schuster Pocket Books are sold and take a mere \$1.75 with you for each novel. Friends. And keep

### STAN'S SOAPBOX

Face front, frantic ones! This is it! I promised to clue you in about our top-secret Project X and far be it from me to hold out on the hallowed hordes of Marveldom Assembled! But first, a little background.

Remember how we've often discussed the fact that comicbooks are the most maligned members of the media world? For years your Marvel Bullpen has been trying to bring them the recognition and acclaim they so richly deserve. We've longed to produce a comicbook that would take the public by storm, a masterpiece to the true devotees and detractors alike. We're talking about a true work of art, a true collection of the finest in story and illustration, printed on superb paper with colors so vivid they're almost on fire! It would be a visual-blast, a feast for the eyes, presenting the greatest talents from every nation on earth as well as the most gifted legend makers Marvel has to offer. It would be higher priced, but still the bargain of the century.

Okay! We're gonna do it! Even as I write these history-making words, the mightiest comicbook bullpen of all time is excitedly preparing, perfecting, and producing the most unbelievably spectacular first issue of a fantasy comicbook you've ever dreamed possible! You notice I keep calling it a comicbook for it is a comicbook — but it's the ultimate comicbook — the version we've

been slated to bring you since Marvel began! Yes, this is the project for which Marvel was surely destined — the creation that will change the image of comicbooks for all time to come.

The title? ODYSSEY! Remember it, ODYSSEY! 'A prolonged voyage. An intellectual or spiritual quest.' ODYSSEY! A senses-shattering journey into the most daring worlds of unbelievable imagination! ODYSSEY! An awesome eye-opening explosion of high-tech excitement that'll leave you breathless. ODYSSEY! In case you haven't guessed, we're subtly suggesting that this year not miss the first (and only) limited edition issue of... what? At a price you can't... oh yeah! ODYSSEY!

Now look, you know I try to do a lot of much flackering in this little tiny little column of mine, but this isn't an ordinary sales pitch, honest! I wouldn't be fair to you if I didn't alert you to the most dynamic and different magazine we've ever produced, the magazine which is certain to be a new milestone in the history of comics — the most talked about, sought-after publication of the decade!

Hey, it's on the drawing board right now. We'll give you the fine details on... oh, ODYSSEY! Comics will name it the same again!

Stan

you'll find it. Why? We wanted you!

**ITEM!** Every now and then there comes a landmark in the ever-unfolding modern mythology that is the Marvel Universe — MARVEL TWO IN ONE #54 is one of them. The story is a powerful one scripted by Ralph Macchio and Mark Gruenwald and the art by John Byrne and Joe Sinnott is superb. What separates this from other equally beautiful works, however, is that in this issue a major Marvel character is... *reborn*. Do not miss it!

**ITEM!** We're becoming more and more impressed with the scripting of one Mary Jo Duffy, and from the material we read you are too! That's not news unless you've been on Tierra del Fuego for the last six months. The news is that with a little help from another rising star, Trevor von Eichen, and the super star, Frank Springer, and a few other fabulous folks, MJ has conceived issue #58 of POWER MAN/IRON FIST and it's more yep-herb! Wait! you meet El Aguiar, the most sensa-

tional super foe to make the scene in ages. His name is Spanish of course, and it means 'The Eagle'. A certain delightful artist is responsible for brainstorming, designing, and suggesting El Aguiar to Mary Jo... and we give no prize to the first ten readers who recognize his distinctive approach and a big bonus offer to us, correctly identifying him. Go to it, gang! Grab your copy before they're all gone!

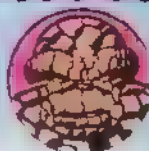
**ITEM!** The seventeenth issue of SPIDER-WOMAN is on sale now, and it features a new character who... well, all we can say is you don't know until you've seen the *Spider-Man*!

**ITEM!** And while we're talking about new characters, we hasten to introduce the two newest characters in the Bullpen, namely, lovely Linda Forno, sparkling secretary, and Rai, d'Ron Zam, peerless production person. Welcome aboard, troops!

**ITEM!** Just a reminder, be careful making those all-hand turns! We want to see you in a minute. And bring your friends!

## THE ALL NEW FANTASTIC FOUR IS HERE!

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ANIMATED ACTION  
SERIES IS THE  
SMASH HIT OF  
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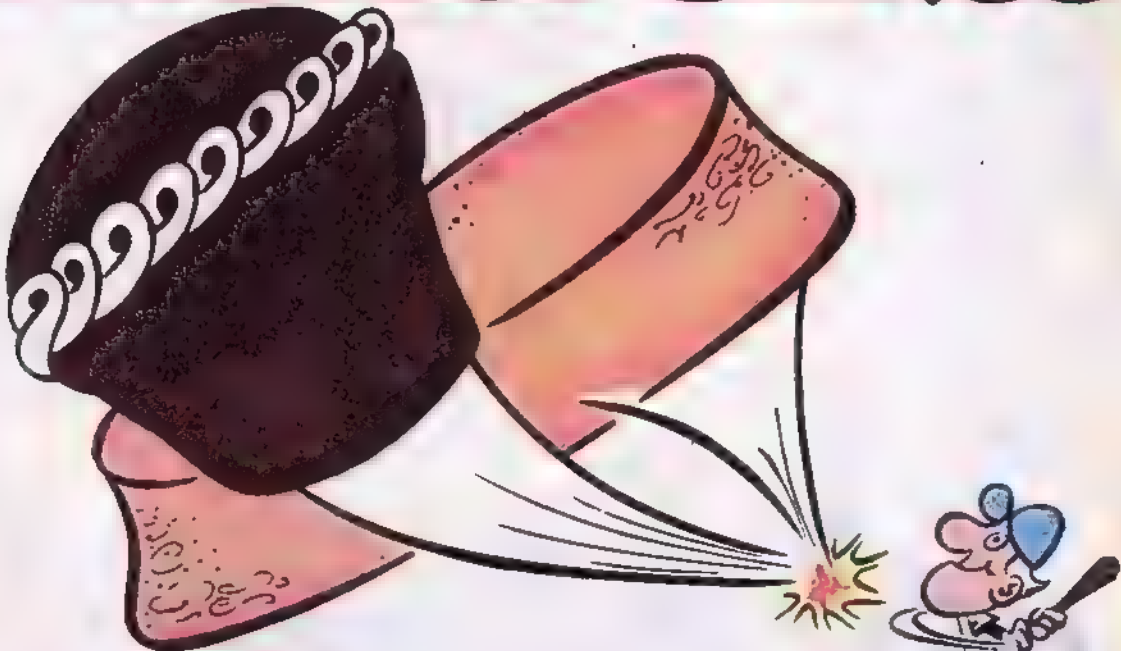
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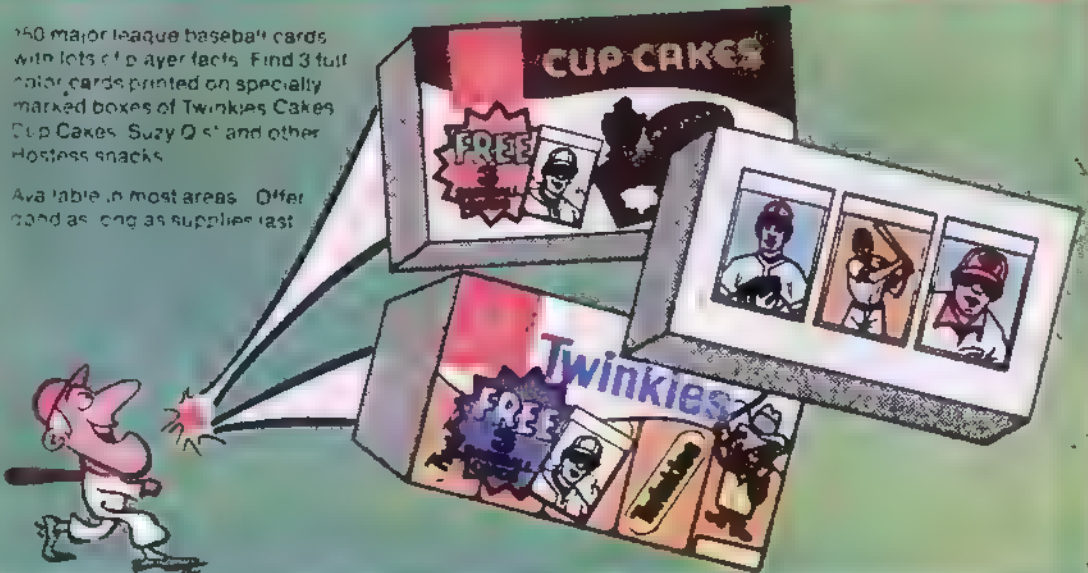


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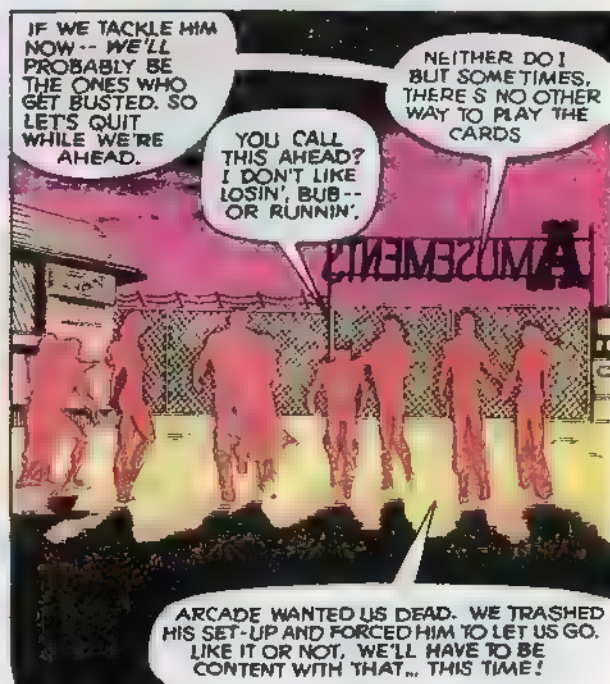
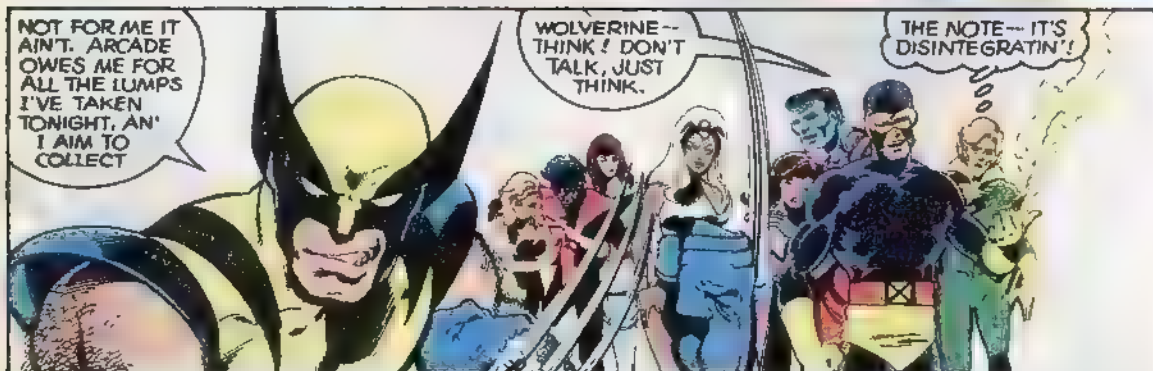
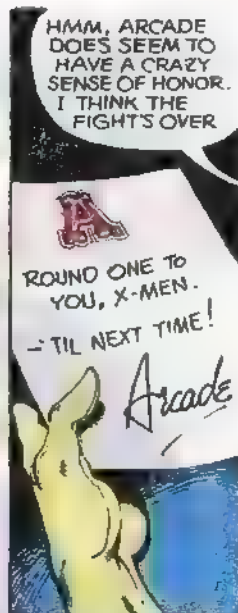
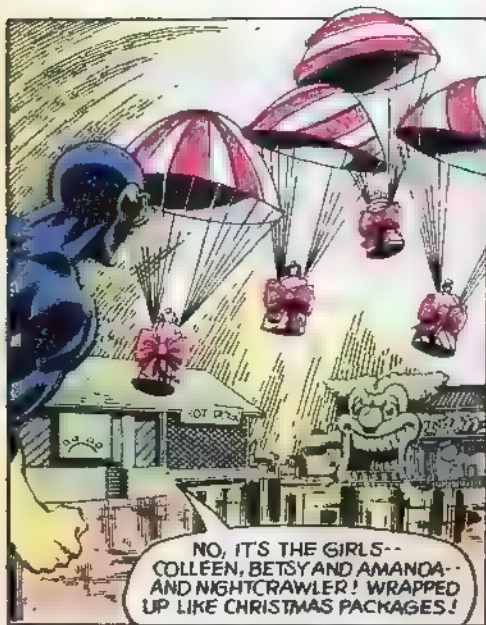
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# X-MAIL

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP  
575 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10022

ROGER STERN  
EDITOR  
JIM SALICRUP  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Chris and John,

X-MEN #118, like all the other issues you two turn out, was perfect. John's fluid artwork coupled with Chris's brilliant characterizations gives the X-MEN a humane quality so lacking in other comics today. Perhaps what I enjoy the most about them is their closeness and friendship with each other despite their occasional bickerings. Friendship is one of the greatest attributes of mankind and it is so refreshing to see it exemplified through the X-Men. Moving along, my first reaction to Sunfire—what an egomaniac! I hope his having to be saved by the X-Men during the fight brought him down a peg or two. Also, I want to thank you for finally letting Nightcrawler get in on the action. I suspect he was becoming rather disenchanted with his role as shown by the dirty look he gave Cyclops on page 7 of X-MEN #115. Finally, I would like to place my nomination for best scene of the year. What else could it be but the scene where a rough, sometimes crude Wolverine meets a timid, gentle Mariko, and promptly loses his heart to her. Please let their friendship develop further and leave Jean to Scott. Wolverine needs the tenderness of Mariko, not the raging fury of Phoenix, to quell the bestial side of him. Also, could you please clear up the mystery surrounding Wolverine? Each issue brings the reader some new insight into his past and it would be nice if you would pull it all together.

Kathy Smith  
Danvers, MA

Dear Marvel,

If not for your beautiful cover and dynamic artwork, I doubt if I would truly have enjoyed X-MEN #118. The plot had me terribly confused, trying to decide whether the firestorm had been caused by an earthquake (as stated by Wolverine) or by firebombing (as extrapolated by Matsunaga, Nightcrawler's sailor friend). Things moved too quickly and without reason; the X-Men are travelling to the Yashida ancestral mansion without helping any Japanese along the way, Sunfire pouncing on them as if they were fugitives, the Prime Minister wanting to talk to the X-Men but never getting around to it, all the X-Men wandering off in the mansion when they should've been trying to get home, and countless other things. You're lucky I let them pass by this month; I'm hoping there'll be a rational explanation next month, 'cause I don't feel like degrading my favorite comic now.

David C. Zimmermann  
157 Lemay Gardens Ct.  
St. Louis, MO 63126

Neither do we, David. To take your points in order: the firestorm was caused by the earthquake rupturing oil, gasoline and natural gas pipelines and storage tanks and then the contents of those tanks being ignited. A firestorm, by the way (for those of you who wondered why Storm couldn't put it out), is a monumental fire, so huge and powerful that it cannot be

extinguished by normal means. Its core is literally a pillar of flame hundreds of feet tall, that turns the area around it into something akin to an open-air blast furnace. To combat such a holocaust, Storm would have had to create a typhoon over the city, which would itself have caused far more damage over a far greater area. Anyway, Chris thought he made it clear that the earthquake was responsible; guess he was wrong. Regarding the trek to Sunfire's house—page 7, panel 1, caption 1 mentions them being delayed again and again by their efforts to help local rescue teams; there just wasn't room to show it. Re: Sunfire's greeting—you'd probably be pretty antsy, too, if a madman had just made good on a threat to destroy St. Louis. Also, Scott is in conference with the Prime Minister on page 15. And, finally, why shouldn't the X-Men wander off and relax in that kind of situation, one assumes they figured—or were told by Cyclops—to assume a low profile and stay out of people's way. All clear, Dave?

Sirs:

Bravo! Brenda Robinett's emotive letter deserves our support and was enough to wake me up, and give her mine! Jean Grey has been getting the short end of the stick lately, and I think you should either quit it or at least tell us what's going on!

More so than most Marvel characters, Jeanie has paid her share of dues—as Marvel Girl her telekinetic powers were often overtaxed, despite her being trained by Prof. X until her psi powers were close to his own. Her romance with Scott has given both of them years of emotional strain with few rewards. Finally, she's no mere 'Child of the Atom' anymore—she actually gave her life to save her fellow X-Men in the shuttlecraft! Her incredible powers seemed a fitting reward for this ultimate sacrifice—her miraculous rebirth is the source of her new identity, after all! Let's get into her head a little more.

I've been an X-MEN reader since #1, and while I can't deny that you're the leader in concept and artwork nowadays, I'd sure like to see Jean get her share of power and happiness—it's been long overdue. Give Phoenix her full potential without these "burnouts"! Her powers are new and versatile, if erratic. She's not just a slugger. Since the incident, her mental powers have multiplied to who-knows-what! PLEASE let her actualize this potential.

Ian Deeley  
5th Special Forces  
Ft. Bragg, NC 28307

We'll do our best, Ian. But along the way, we feel obliged to point out a misconception that seems to be causing no end of trouble for our readers. Time and again, we read and hear references to Scott and Jean's 14 year romance. If that were the case—assuming they were 18 and 17 years old respectively when they met—both of them would be in their early to middle thirties! However, as they aren't in their thirties, they can't possibly have been together 14 years. In fact, the rule of thumb used at Marvel is that it's been maybe five or six years since Xavier founded the X-Men, if that—which means that Jean and Scott have been together and in love for maybe three or four years. So, there are still a lot of things each has to learn about the other, and a lot of things that can go wrong. That's not to say that they will...but they might.

**NEXT ISSUE:** For those of you who may be wondering what the fuss is all about, we proudly re-introduce—in her considerable glory—Phoenix! Hang onto your hats, people, because the X-Men are about to be reunited—but first, Jean Grey, Moira MacTaggart, Lorna Dane, Alex Summers and Jamie Madrox have to discover: "THERE'S SOMETHING AWFUL ON MUIR ISLAND!"



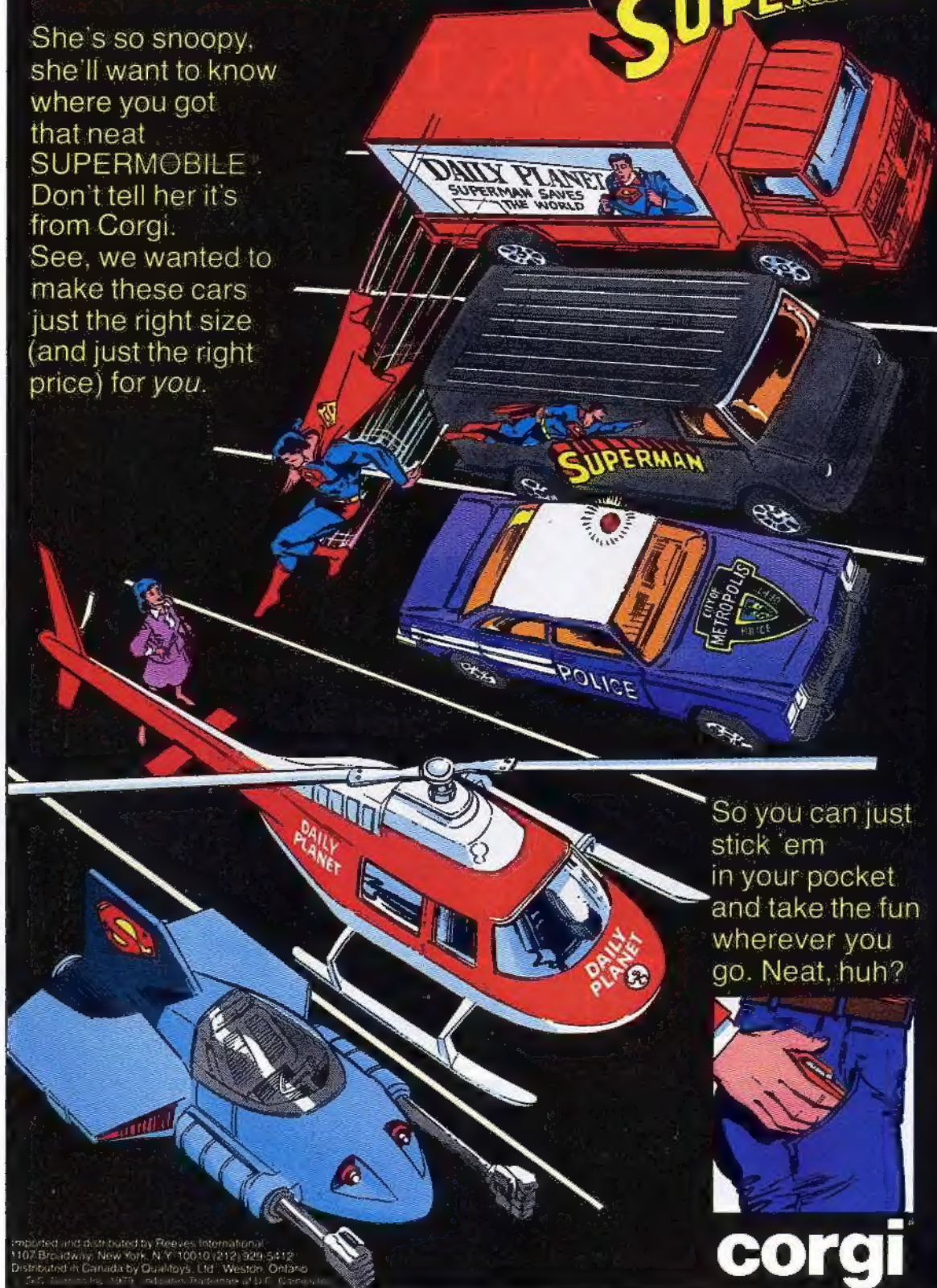






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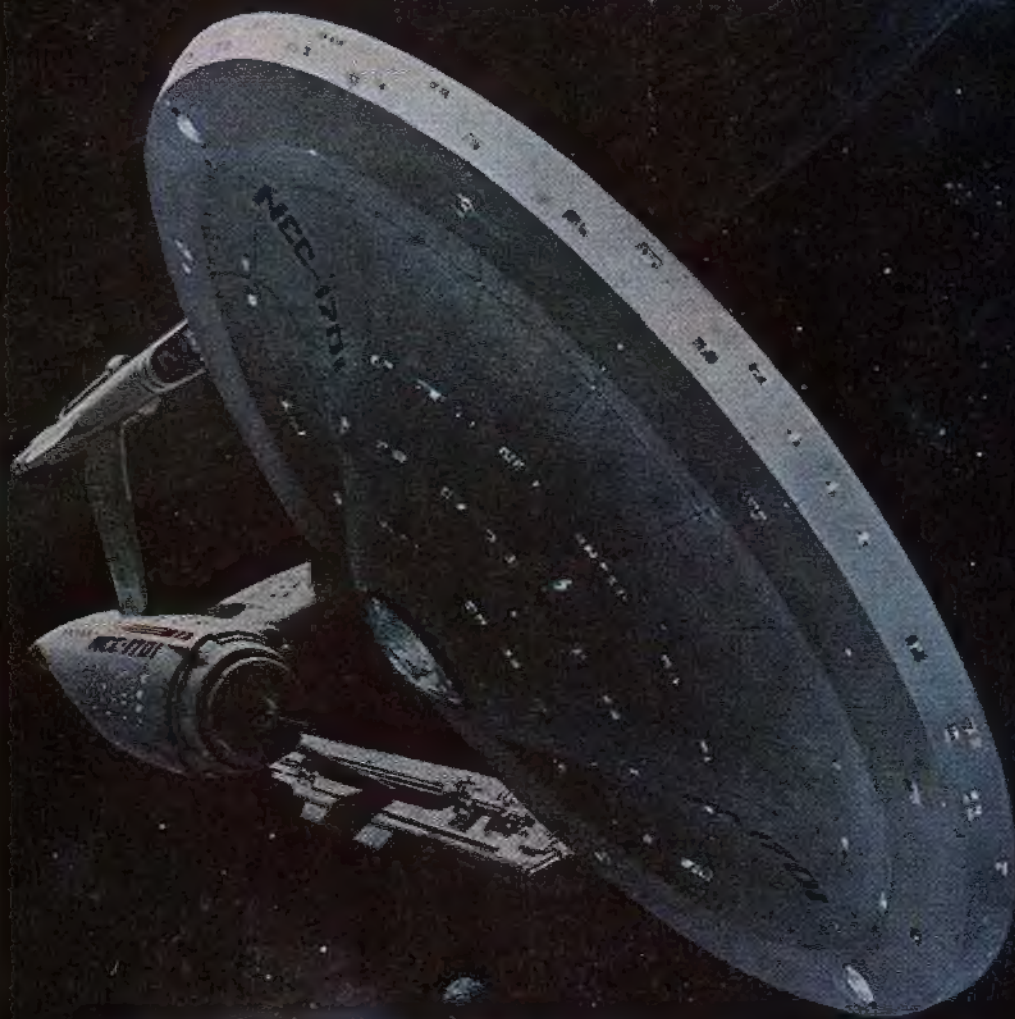
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